Daily Report

Latin America

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L.A. Congressmen Demand Guarantees in Chile

PY0108221988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0224 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 31 Jul (EFE)—At a conference held today in Montevideo to express solidarity with Chile, congressmen from Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay demanded the minimum guarantees from the government of General Augusto Pinochet for the upcoming plebiscite in Chile.

Delegates of political parties represented in the congresses of these three countries stressed the efforts being made by the people of Chile "to return their fatherland, one of the oldest democracies on the American continent, to the concert of free peoples and to a state of law."

They also "condemned Gen Pinochet's regime" and expressed their "concern over the alarming signs of manipulation and fraud in the plebiscite scheduled in Chile."

Andres Saldivar, vice president of the Chilean Christian Democratic Party, stated at the closing ceremony that the existence of seven million Chileans "who will vote for democracy undermines any electoral fraud planned by the government of Gen Pinochet."

The conference lasted 2 days and was organized by the Latin American Association for Human Rights [Asociacion Latinoamericana para los Derechos Humanos—ALDHU]. Present at the conference were representatives from the 16 Chilean opposition parties, who make up the "Committee for the No Vote," as well as deputies and senators from other Southern Cone countries.

Ecuadoran President-Elect Rodrigo Borja supported the conference through a message delivered at the conference by Ecuadoran Democratic Left Deputy Cesar Varduga, who is also the executive secretary of "ALDHU." [passage omitted]

As a concrete expression of solidarity, the congressmen accepted an invitation by the International Congressional Conference for Democracy in Chile to send observers to the plebiscite that will be held in Chile, and they extended the same invitation to other congresses from American and Europe.

The final statement of the conference expresses hope that "the quick recovery of democracy in Chile, and the progress of the Paraguayan people struggling for the same objective, can turn South America, for the first time in our history, into a zone in the world with a real community of democratic states before the end of this decade."

Cuba

Aldana, Swiss Official Discuss 4-Way Talks

FL0208011788 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] The Swiss Government has expressed the hope that the conference on the southwestern region of Africa, which will begin tomorrow in Geneva, will be successful. The good wishes were expressed to Carlos Aldana, who is heading the Cuban delegation to the meeting in Geneva.

Aldana, member of the PCC Secretariat, met with Edouard Brunner, Swiss secretary of state, who expressed his country's satisfaction that Geneva was selected once again as the headquarters to continue the peace efforts.

For his part, the head of our country's delegation reiterated Cuba's constructive attitude and willingness to contribute to a just solution for southwestern Africa.

Negotiations will begin tomorrow and extend through 4 August on 14 principles which were mutually approved at the last meeting in New York. One of the points that is considered fundamental is the application of UN Resolution 435, which establishes Namibia's independence.

This conference, which has the same scope as the meeting held last month in New York, is being held at the experts level.

The Angolan group is headed by Vice Defense Minister Lieutenant General Antonio dos Santos Franca Ndalo.

First Day of Talks End

FL0208191988 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1902 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] The first day of talks between representatives from Cuba, Angola, South Africa, and the United States to obtain a negotiated solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa ended today in Geneva, Switzerland. In accordance with the type of negotiations in which the parties are involved, it was agreed that no statements will be made until the meeting ends on Thursday.

The Cuban and Angolan delegations say that the main point for a just solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa is UN Security Council Resolution 435, which establishes the unconditional independence of Namibia.

Negotiations for a peaceful solution to the conflict in southwestern Africa will continue tomorrow in the international conference center in Geneva.

RSA Proposals 'Unacceptable'

FL0308113888 Havana Radio Progreso Network Spanish 1100 GMT 3 AUG 88

[Text] Cuba and Angola have considered as unacceptable the proposals made by South Africa on Tuesday regarding the southwestern Africa conflict. The countries' position is included in a communique published today in Geneva, where experts are holding negotiations. The document notes that South Africa violated the rules of the negotiations by making public its proposals a few minutes after it submitted them at the negotiating table. The communique says that the South African proposals have not been discussed at the Geneva meeting but that they are unacceptable to the joint Cuban-Angolan delegation. Nevertheless, the document states the Cuban-Angolan delegation will continue with the negotiations.

Castro Tours Sierra Maestra Southern Coast

FL0208034688 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Aug 88

["Report on part" of President Fidel Castro's tour of Santiago de Cuba on 28 July; produced by the Council of State—recorded]

[Excerpts] As part of his working visit to Santiago de Cuba Province, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro toured the southern coast of the Sierra Maestra in Guama municipality on 28 July. He was accompanied by Esteban Lazo [first party secretary in Santiago de Cuba Province], Eddy Fernandez [president of the people's government in Santiago de Cuba Province], and Roberto Valdes [chief of the Interior Ministry in Santiago de Cuba Province].

Fidel learned how the construction of the Granma highway is progressing. The road will be 210 km long and will unite Santiago and Pilon. It is a project of extraordinary importance and work has now been accelerated to complete it.

Fidel also examined the territory in detail to plan hotel installations and other projects of different sizes that are part of the great effort to develop tourism in this area, taking advantage of the singular conditions and natural beauty of the ocean and the mountains on this coast. [passage omitted]

If we can propose an important tourism program today in this region, said Fidel, it is because of the extraordinary effort to construct this road and the economic and social development promoted by the revolution during the past few years in what was one of the most isolated and underdeveloped areas of the country. In addition to the road, electrical service to the zone, construction of homes, and many other social projects are included in this program. [passage omitted]

In Madrugon in the Sierra Maestra, Fidel spoke extensively with several peasants and expressed interest in the social situation of this area. Projects for this region include the

construction of a dam on the Sevilla River, an extensive plan for vegetables and tubers, a pre-university, and other projects which will be built in conjunction with the construction of a hotel in Sevilla. This will be the first hotel on the Guama coast. [passage omitted]

The dam on the Sevilla River will meet the water requirements for the population, tourist installations, and agriculture. It will also prevent flooding that occasionally occurs in the coastal valleys and will prevent beach pollution. The dam will also allow breeding of different types of fish and will have other results that make it a focal point in the integral development plan for the region. [passage omitted]

The tour concluded in Santiago de Cuba, where Fidel and provincial leaders reviewed in detail the extensive plans for the development of tourism in the southern coast of the Sierra Maestra.

R. Castro Meets With Saharan Politburo Member

FL0208023288 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0202 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has held a cordial meeting with Mansour Omar, member of the Politburo of the Polisario Front and foreign minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, who is in our country for the 26 July festivities.

During the talks, the Saharan leader referred to the heroic military, political, and diplomatic struggle that his country is carrying out under the leadership of the Polisario Front, as well as efforts to eliminate foreign occupation.

In his meeting with Omar, Army Gen Raul Castro expressed the solidarity of the Cuban people, government, and party with the just, patriotic, and heroic struggle of the brother Saharan people.

Omar is in our country on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada Barracks.

Malmierca, Risquet Welcome Ugandan Official

FL2907031588 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Eriya Kategaya, member of the National Resistance Council and deputy prime minister of the Republic of Uganda, has arrived in our country to participate as a guest in the festivities marking the 35th anniversary of the Moncada Barracks attack. Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo, and Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, together with other officials, welcomed him at the airport. Risquet explained to the Ugandan deputy prime minister the program of activities planned for the celebration of 26 July in Santiago de Cuba and they discussed other matters of interest to the two countries.

[Begin Kategaya recording, in English fading into Spanish translation] We came here to show our solidarity because the success of the Cuban revolution was a great lesson for the peoples who struggle. The fact that some people dare to struggle and are successful inspired other oppressed peoples to struggle. Comrade Castro and his colleagues who had the courage to defy the United States, which was so close to Cuba, was a great inspiration to the oppressed peoples. I remember in my young days when I attended the university, the success of the Cuban revolution was a great inspiration and showed that when oppressed peoples are determined, they can be successful in their struggle. So, we came to express our solidarity with this country. [end recording]

SELA Secretary Arrives, Meets With Melendez

FL0108220588 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2004 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] Permanent SELA secretary Carlos Perez del Castillo has arrived in Havana at the invitation of the Cuban state. During his stay in Cuba, the SELA official will meet with high-level leaders of the Cuban Government and will visit centers of scientific and economic interest.

Today Perez del Castillo met with Ernesto Melendez, president [as heard] of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation.

In statements made to the Cuban press, the high-level SELA official said that the meeting with regional foreign ministers, which will be held in Caracas in September, has the goal of converting the institution into an organ for concerted political action. The foreign debt and the process of democratization on the continent are among the topics that will be discussed at that meeting, added Carlos Perez del Castillo.

Received by Cabrisas

FL0208024888 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0203 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Permanent SELA Secretary Carlos Perez del Castillo, who is visiting our country, was received by Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz.

During the meeting, the two officials discussed the guidelines of the current work of that important organization, of which Cuba is a member. Special attention was paid to matters related to the Uruguayan meeting on multilateral trade relations.

Cabrisas and Perez del Castillo also discussed in detail the growth of intra-regional trade and the promotion of cooperation ties in such spheres as Latin American multinational trade firms.

The Cuban foreign trade minister reitered our country's support for SELA activities in this area and others, such as relations with CEMA, Canada, Japan, and developed countries.

Further on Visit of Afghan Delegation

LD0208210988 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] The medal of the Republic of Afghanistan has been awarded to five Cuban party and state officials. The medals were given to them in a meeting. Najmuddin Kawiani, member of the Politburo and secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee; His Excellency [Jorge] Risquet, member of the PCC Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; and various senior Cuban officials participated in the meeting, which was arranged by the Afghan Embassy.

On 27 and 28 July Kawiani met with the president of the Cuban National Assembly and with the participants in the activities marking the 35th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada Barracks. He also met the deputy president of the Ecuadoran Assembly and members of parliament from various parties of that country, as well as with commanders of [words indistinct] front and the Democratic Front of El Salvador. He met with the members of the National Democratic Union and other social organizations of Guatemala. During these meetings party and state issues of mutual interest for the consolidation of relations were discussed.

According to another report on the morning of 30 July Kawiani and his delegation arrived in Managua from Havana for an official visit to Nicaragua. Najmuddin Kawiani met with the Nicaraguan interior minister after arriving in Managua.

Domestic Trade Minister Visits GDR, Poland

FL0108145888 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] Manuel Vila Sosa, minister of domestic trade of Cuba, has ended a 7-day working visit in the GDR. Vila Sosas also traveled to Warsaw, Poland.

Commentary Views 'Complex' C.A. Situation

PA0108124888 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jul 88

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The situation in Central America, especially in Nicaragua, is apparently becoming more complex now that the end of President Ronald Reagan's term is only a few months away. Obviously, the U.S. President is trying to create a climate of tension that would be favorable to aggressive actions of a definitive nature against the Sandinist revolution, or at least to set up a whole structure of violence to pass on to his successor. In this regard, part of Washington's tactics are, on the one hand, to dismantle the peace plans for the region and, on the other, to increase the physical support to the counterrevolutionary groups that advocate a continuation of military action.

In fact, a few days ago Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega issued a warning about the failure to reactivate the Verification and Follow-Up Commission of the Esquipulas II agreements, which, as its name indicates, is in charge of ensuring compliance with this document by all signatories. The absence of this instrument promotes apathy and unilateral interpretations concerning enforcement of the declaration's principles, which is an invitation to chaos and lack of seriousness.

(?Not only that, but) the Salvadoran and Honduran Governments spearheaded this undermining action. Under instructions from Ronald Reagan, they are sabotaging minute by minute any action conducive to peace. To this job of undercutting negotiated solutions, Washington adds its desire to keep the counterrevolutionary bands alive. A few hours ago Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state, asserted that continuing the financial assistance to the mercenaries is a priority of the current U.S. Government. More specifically, and to make it easier to analyze this, the assertion was made during a conversation with a Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary while Managua is insistently demanding a continuation of the Sapoa dialogue with those groups.

Obviously, Nicaragua's interest in the talks cannot be construed as a sign of weakness, because the Sandinist government is far better off than the mercenaries in the military and political spheres. The main reason for its insistence on peace is its desire to spare the people further suffering and to devote all of the country's efforts to economic and social reconstruction.

One year after the signing of Esquipulas II, all indications are that Nicaragua is the only Central American country that has not only complied with the provisions of the regional agreement but is earnestly striving to make it prevail over Washington's domination and the regional leaders' subservience.

'Dangerous Process' Developing in Guatemala

PA0208123688 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Aug 88

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] A dangerous process that may degenerate into a serious political and social situation is developing in Guatemala. While the economic situation worsens, causing increased labor instability, an increase in repressive activities is noticed. This is tarnishing the government's democratic image.

The exorbitant increase in the price of basic supplies and fuel and the government's stubborn refusal to increase workers' wages has brought about massive protests that could turn into a general strike within the next few days.

Although President Cerezo has signed a Central American peace plan, he is under a great deal of foreign pressure—the origin of which is known by everyone—

intended to change the course of his foreign policy. The foiled May coup d'etat attempt is also an indication there are domestic groups—in this case the military—trying to influence the government to advance their reactionary positions. Taking advantage of the tense situation that favors their plans, there is a full range of repressive actions taken by old extreme right-wing groups that work side by side with the Armed Forces and the national police.

At this moment, we could speak of a serious government weakening in national economic policies and the need for more energetic treatment toward the gangs that violate human rights. Without a doubt, one could say there are violent U.S. actions intended to definitely change the course of Guatemalan foreign policy which, added to the efforts of right-wing groups to domestically destabilize the country, would end up surrounding the government with weaknesses that would make this country an easy prey for projects against the rest of Central America. There already is word of a document that the United States wants Guatemala and three other Central American countries to sign at the meeting of foreign ministers that will take place on 1 August, intended to establish an anti-Nicaraguan consensus.

Even more than at the beginning of his term, the Guatemalan president and his government must remain alert to a very dangerous situation for their country and the Central American area.

Congestion of Merchandise at Ports 'Critical'

FL2807150088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Jul 88

[Text] The congestion of merchandise at ports in the central part of the country has become critical during the past few days due to the massive arrival of ships.

This makes a joint response necessary on the part of the internal economy and transportation sectors. The efforts of the transportation workers are especially needed until the situation normalizes.

There are now 45,000 tons of cargo at the ports in the area.

[Begin speaker recording] We are planning our strategies. We are discussing the possibility of transferring ships and their cargo to other ports, such as the one in Casilda, which has no ships today. The majority of this cargo is for Sancti Spiritus and we are considering transferring these ships there. [end recording]

The only response to this situation is for all those involved, especially the transportation sector, to redouble their efforts to prevent the bottleneck in the central ports from spreading.

Barbados

Prime Minister Sandiford on Japanese Loan

FL3007005688 Bridgetown CANA in English 2142 GMT 29 Jul 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 29, CANA—Barbados prime minister, Erskine Sandiford, on Friday brushed aside suggestions he had had to settle for a Japanese loan 50 percent smaller that what he had requested because of his comments on the island's economy.

Sandiford, who is also finance minister, told reporters he went to Japan with the aim of raising between 5 and 7.5 billion yen following a resolution approved by parliament authorising government to borrow up to 10 billion yen, which he described as an "optimistic" figure.

"...We were always conscious that we would aim for 5 billion or 7.5 billion as the case may be...," he said.

According to Sandiford, the 5 billion yen raised, equivalent to Bds80 million dollars, was a much better deal then two previous Japanese loans raised by the ruling Democratic Labour Party (DLP) government and the former Barbados Labour Party (BLP) administration. Sandiford was responding to reporters questions following a meeting on Friday at his official Illaro Court residence with visiting Japanese ambassador, Mitsuo Iijima who is based in Trinidad and Tobago. Both opposition parliamentarians and government backbencher, Richie Haynes, who resigned as finance minister last year, have raised questions about the Japanese loan.

According to local press reports, Dr. Haynes said Sandiford may have been able to raise the 10 billion yen, equivalent to Bds160 million dollars, if he did not give the false impression that the Barbados economy was headed for the rocks.

"If I express a view on the economy it is because having examined it that is the position that I perceive. I am not seeking to cover up anything and I am not seeking to overplay anything," Sandiford said. "The 10 billion was an outside figure. It was a maximum figure. It was not really the target figure. If we could have got the 10 billion then we would not have had to go up to that particular market or indeed some of the other markets for a considerable period of time," he told reporters. He said the dominant factor at the time of raising the Japanese funds was the unstable situation of Panama and the fact that four other countries—Algeria, Czechoslovakia, Turkey and Nauru—were also seeking to raise 33 billion yen on the Japanese market.

Sandiford said while the last two Japanese loans totalling Bds9.3 million dollars raised were each to be repaid in "one shot" at the end of five years, in 1990 and 1991, the recent 5 billion yen loan was on favourable terms including repayment over a ten year period.

Further, he noted, it was the first time in its history that the Japanese Export-Import Bank had subscribed 50 per cent of such a loan. The bank, according to Sandiford, normally limits its subscription of such loans to between 20 and 25 per cent.

Sandiford said the Japanese loan would go towards financing his government's capital development programme and it was a fact that there was an imbalance between revenue and expenditure in this year's estimates. He noted that when the former DLP finance minister sought to raise 5 billion yen in 1986 it was only possible to raise 4.3 billion, largely due to the volatility of the Japanese market and the uncertainty over the future of interest and exchange rates. "In other words, on that occasion, a specific figure was given but that specific amount was not raised," Sandiford said. "It is therefore nothing strange if you go to a market to raise money, especially a market that is as sensitive as the Japanese market is to all kinds of influences...you may get these variations," he said.

He also reported following his discussions with the Japanese diplomat that Barbados was hoping to tap any Japanese funds which might be available to the Barbados-raised Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). Sandiford noted that Barbados per capita income more or less precluded it from benefitting from surplus Japanese funds which were targeted at poor countries. Barbados per capita income at U.S. 4,925 dollars is the second highest in the Caribbean Community.

"I believe that the way that we will have to go in terms of bilateral economic/financial relations with Japan is by way of identifying suitable projects which might be on a joint basis or on some other basis...," he said. "...But that is if we can find viable projects which would be private sector or public and private sector combined. We are currently working to conclude a project for the processing, development and growing of cotton," he said.

He said the cotton project aimed at exporting to Japan and involving some Eastern Caribbean countries was a "complex" project which would take some time to be implemented.

Questioned about the current state of the economy, the prime minister said there were more people at work now than in any other period in Barbados history. He said though that the statistics might show a slight increase in the rate of unemployment because the labour force is now larger and more people were seeking work. The 1988 first quarter unemployment rate was 16.3 per cent compared to 15.5 percent in the January to March 1987 period, according to the government statistical department. Sandiford hinted that he would say more on the economy at next Tuesday's sitting of parliament.

Dominican Republic

Exchange Controls To Check Inflation Begin

FL0208123088 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] The Dominican Republic has begun controls in its foreign exchange. This is the latest in a series of measures taken by President Joaquin Balaguer to control 60-percent inflation. It includes the imposition of exchange rates set by the Central Bank and foreign currency transactions to be conducted only by commercial banks. The purchase rate is now 6.33 pesos to the dollar instead of the free market rate of 9.15 pesos.

Haiti

3 Commune Committees Named Until Elections

FL0208160488 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] In conformity with the decree of 22 October 1982 concerning communal legislation [as heard], and considering that it is possible to form a committee in charge of managing the interests of the commune of Delmas upon the recommendation of the minister of interior and national defense, the following decree has been issued:

Article 1. A committee made up of citizens Rodrigue Ben Bichotte; Gustave Silva, a retired lieutenant colonel in the Haitian Armed Forces; and Mrs Joseph Simeon—president and members—has been appointed to manage the interests of the commune of Delmas until the next election.

According to another decree, Article 1, a committee made up of citizens Jacques F. Leonard, Roger Joseph, and Michel Dorce—president and members, respectively—has been formed to manage the interests of the commune of Petion-Ville until the next election.

Still another decree speaks of a committee made up of citizens Georges Dorlus, Janine Augustin, and Berthony Laguerre—president and members, respectively—formed to manage the interests of the commune of Kenscoff until an election is held.

Plans To Improve Administering of Justice Noted

FL0108170788 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 29 JUL 88

[Excerpts] Last 26 July there was a work session at the Ministry of Justice, the first such session, attended by representatives of the different Justice Department agencies in Haiti, such as the magistrates from the court of cassation, the magistrates from the special labor court in Port-au-Prince, the justices of the peace, the surveyors, the notaries, and the civil registrars. There will be more work sessions such as this from now on.

The objective of this meeting, which was the first of a series scheduled to go on indefinitely, was to administer justice better here in Haiti. To this same end, there will be classes for court officials and radio and television broadcasts targeting the general public with the goal of teaching the general public its rights and its duties.

On 19-20 August, a delegation headed by Justice Minister Brigadier General Fritz Antoine is going to the Departments of the North and the Northeast. On 26 August, this delegation is going to Gonaives and Port-de-Paix. The delegation is going to meet with judges, magistrates, civil registrars, surveyors, and notaries to discuss the problems these people encounter in administering proper justice in Haiti, particularly in the areas in which they live.

In this connection, Ochnel Charles interviewed Yves Barbot, director general of the Justice Ministry. Let's see what emerged from this little talk:

[Begin recording] [Barbot] Actually, the ministry feels it must schedule all its activities according to a plan. We are henceforth going to have a schedule for each month. We are going to schedule all the ministry's activities for the following month, day by day, week by week. Second, we think you have to start at the base. Now, the base is the judicial institutions themselves. So the ministry is first going to turn its attention to them. That is why we began by summoning the magistrates of the court of cassation. Then we went on to the court of appeals of Port-au-Prince and then to the civil courts of Port-au-Prince. On 26 July, we called in the magistrate of the special labor court of Port-au-Prince.

These are joint work sessions that allow us to identify the problems that come up, the measures that can be taken to improve the administration of justice—to make it more strict and to speed up the proceedings, while at the same time guaranteeing the quality of the decisions. [passage omitted]

Then, on 26 August we are going to the Artibonite. We will visit Saint-Marc, Gonaives, and the northwest, in particular Port-de-Paix. [passage omitted] The minister himself will head the delegation. The technical council will accompany him, as will the director general; the director of judicial affairs; a representative of the ministry's press department; an engineer from the ministry's department of programming and projects, so he can study local issues and problems; and the head of the civil registry department, to study the problems of the civil registrars on site—whatever problems there may be in connection with the registers and with forms, and especially local problems, problems of organization, and so forth. [passage omitted]

There will be a program like this planned for every month. There will be a calendar that covers all the ministry's activities, for each month—week by week and day by day.

[Charles] Does this mean the general public can expect that justice will be better dispensed?

[Barbot] But of course! That is why we are making this effort. We are even going to organize familiarization courses on basic, practical notions of law for the general public. In particular, we are going to target the people who have no formal education at all—for example, porters, cart-pushers, ice-cone vendors, peanut vendors, and so forth. This way they will know what the law is, what the law says about various things, what a birth certificate is, how you obtain a birth certificate, how to make a late declaration if you have not obtained a birth certificate, [words indistinct] etc. We are going to bring all these things up.

We are going to organize practical courses. It is not going to be something theoretical. We are going to state the problems in such a way as to be able to explain to them concretely and clearly what these things are. [end recording]

Interior, Defense Ministry Appointments Made

FL0208162588 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] The Ministry of Information and Coordination announces that the following appointments were made at the Ministry of Interior and National Defense on 26 July 1988:

Lieutenant Colonel Philippe Biamby of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] was appointed head of the inspection service. Lieutenant Colonel Emmanuel Orcel, retired, FADH, was appointed director of the national identification office. Lieutenant Colonel Israel Delva, FADH, was appointed head of the equipment and supply department.

That was a press release from the information office of the Ministry of Information and Coordination.

Groups Say Gang Terrorizing Area; Action Urged

FL0108211088 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] According to information we have, the parish of Fond Verrettes is presently abandoned and has been for some time. For this reason, many people who live in that parish who had already organized themselves into associations met to sit down together and reflect upon the criminal acts that occurred in that parish between 31 May and 10 July and which forced the parish authorities to abandon it. As they went over the facts, these people wondered who the perpetrators of these acts are and whether this situation can remain the way it is.

They report that on the evening of Tuesday, 31 May, a group of people entered the house of Father Fleurisme, who is in charge of the parish. At around 2330, they destroyed his vehicle with rocks and bullets. They shot off dozens of rounds in the yard. People who were at the

priest's house had to flee because things got too hot for them. These people did not come out of their hiding places until the following day at around 1300.

But the shooting was not just at the priest's house. On that same 31 May, they broke down the door of Mrs Octave Wilson's house. They did the same thing at Paul Chery's house. Moreover, they shot it full of holes. The same thing happened at Prosper's house, where they destroyed a tank [basin] that he had.

The men doing the shooting did not stop there. They went to a place called Bonhomme. There, they shot at Vital's house, at Medira's house, and at other people's homes.

On Thursday, 2 June, after the priest had finished holding the Corpus Christi service during which a wayside altar had been set up, it rained from approximately 1500 to 2045. At around 2300, things changed. In the Bois Neuf area, still in Fond Verrettes, where all the morning's ceremonies had taken place, a bullet was fired (?at) a nearby terrace a few minutes after a vehicle stopped. Many houses in the area were then turned into targets; that is, a group of men shot at them. In the courtyard of the residence of Mrs Ely Wilson, more than 50 rounds were fired. They drilled Mrs Edmond Vertil's residence full of holes and fired five bullets at Mrs Ti Frere Losier. There was also shooting in an area known as (Tire Plan).

On Friday, 3 June, this group of thugs returned to the priest's residence. They fired many rounds in the presbytery courtyard. They also shot at the tires and roof of the priest's vehicle.

The associations in question recall that during all this time, while these men were shooting things up, they had never attacked the nuns' residence. Nevertheless, they attacked it the evening of that same day. They fired a bullet that shattered a pillar in the house.

Between Monday, 6 June, and Saturday, 11 June, the group continued the shooting. One day they would shoot in one area and the next day they would shoot in another. They would stop shooting one day and resume shooting the next. During that week of 6-11 June, they attacked the house of Saintvilus Saintelien (?in) Dondon and the house of Estela in the place known as Barrasa.

Between 11 June and 10 July 1988, these acts of destruction continued with a vengeance. Many houses in the area were attacked such as the area to launch at the residence of Joseph the preacher, the house of Saintvilus Saintelien. [sentence as heard]

In the Terre Froide area, they attacked the house of the Derogene family. There was shooting almost every day. These attacks also occurred in (Nan Plezi), (Twa ma), (Kat), (Ti Source), (Port Nargot), and many other areas.

During all this shooting, they seized the opportunity to break into and pillage and steal a few things from the presbytery. They also broke into small shops in the area and cleaned them out. In view of this situation of panic in which not a single person came to the aid of the population, many people are now fleeing, going into hiding. The population is very frightened. The priest and nuns cannot return to the parish. The church remains closed. Everyone who wants to reopen it is being threatened.

How does this affect life in this area? On Saturday, 4 June, the priest and the nuns gathered up all their belongings and left. Thus now there is neither a priest nor nuns in the Fond Verrettes area. Things are not going well there. Many people have fled because they are afraid of getting killed. Thus, the children of these people, who are in school either in Fond Verrettes or Port-au-Prince, have many problems. Many other people have more or less remained, but this takes a lot of guts, and they are very frightened; threats are being made daily. People seem to have lost even the right to meet to pray to God, because a person who went and rang the church bells as usual after the priest left received heavy threats.

In conclusion, let us say that they are driving these people crazy. They are terrorizing them. Who is doing this?

The note from these associations goes on: It is clear that it is people in the area. Also, it looks as if the people in the area doing this are aided by people from elsewhere, from Port-au-Prince, for example, particularly since the people say that the sound of the weapons they have been hearing is not the sound they are used to hearing. Apparently this is the first time they have heard such weapons.

The other thing that the population cannot understand is that there are people they know everyone knows threatening them. [sentence as heard] Certain people want to suck the Haitian people's blood dry. That is something the thugs don't like, and it is the main reason they are going berserk like that. But it seems there are other things involved, too, and we say this for two reasons.

The first reason is that a week after the priest had left the area, these thugs were still continuing their criminal actions. If all they wanted was to drive out the priest, they would have stopped. It was also noticed that they attacked a bunch of people who have nothing to do with the priest. They even appear to have split up into several groups to terrorize the population.

The civilian and military authorities have done nothing to resolve the situation, and there is a total laissez faire in the area.

Does this not show that even if the main purpose of these men's actions was to drive out the priest, they are nevertheless up to something else, too? That is another question that the population of Fond Verrettes should ask itself.

In addition to the area in which the men have been shooting—for example, at the priest's house, which is very near the barracks—they are shooting in other places, too. During all this time, the military authorities have made no effort to stop any of this. As for the civilian authorities, they seem to be incapable of saying a word. Could it be that all these people are accomplices? This is the big question people are asking themselves.

Why are these individuals acting this way? According to many people, this big group of thugs has been heard to say that the priest came out there to make them lose their means of livelihood. Another thing they are reportedly saying is that the La Sainte Famille people are working with the priest and against macoutes. In truth, Father Fleurisme had been denouncing a series of injustices committed in Fond Verrettes.

Can this situation stay like this? Everyone knows that a person who has no peace cannot live properly. He is like a beast being hunted down. Peace is an essential condition for people to develop and become fully human. For this reason, we think that these injustices, these acts of repression, must cease. That is why the archbishopric, the Episcopal Conference and the clergy, the human rights organizations, and so forth must shoulder their responsibilities.

We are sending this dossier to them so that they can analyze it, study it, and investigate, so that they can follow up on this matter. This is our dream, because Fond Verrettes must be allowed to live in peace. The people in Fond Verrettes must have a life, like everyone else in the country.

That was a note from several associations in the Fond Verrettes area which sent a press release to the sectors they feel are concerned by this situation, to see if an improvement in the situation is possible and the people can live without fear.

Trinidad and Tobago

Prime Minister Calls for Caribbean Integration

FL2807134588 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 28 Jul 88

[Text] Trinidadian Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson says the small English-speaking nations of the Caribbean must either unite or be dominated by foreign powers. Speaking to a conference sponsored by the Trinidadian Caribbean Congress of Labor, Mr Robinson made clear that Trinidad and Tobago is committed to Caribbean integration and said the small countries individually are too weak to stand the pressures of today's world. The 7-member Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, OECS, has been studying unification since May of 1987.

Camacho Solis Elected PRI Secretary General
FL0308021788 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0144 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Aug (NOTIMEX)—During a special meeting this afternoon the National Council of the PRI unanimously elected Manuel Camacho Solis as new secretary general of the National Executive Committee. He will replace Humberto Lugo Gil.

Until now Camacho Solis has held the position of urban development and ecology secretary. He was born in Mexico City on 30 March 1946 and he joined the PRI in 1965, when he was 19 years old.

El Salvador

Ungo: Government Obstructing National Dialogue

PA0308034488 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Report on statement by FDR President Guillermo Ungo on 2 August—place not given]

[Text] Today Guillermo Ungo, president of the FDR in El Salvador, said that the national dialogue, an indispensable requirement for achieving an agreement in El Salvador, is being obstructed by Napoleon Duarte's Christian Democratic government. He added:

[Begin Ungo recording] That leaves us with only one proposal to develop. It is important and interesting. It is a national dialogue that the Catholic Church is promoting and helping to develop and which has received responses from more than 70 politically and ideologically diverse social organizations. The national dialogue has been rejected by only extremely rightist political and economic groups, that is, by large business organizations and rightist political parties.

This may be regarded as more of a social dialogue, that is, a proposal deriving from social organizations. Its conclusions can serve as a reference point and as parameters for the government, the FDR, the FMLN, and the political organizations, which are belligerent factors in the attainment of a solution to this conflict.

This dialogue among the principal social organizations, which represent the majority of the Salvadoran people, is only beginning, and I believe there will be good results. The dialogue offers possibilities for reaching a popular, national consensus, but it would exclude the powerful economic groups that form the present oligarchic, military system with a Christian Democratic facade. [end recording]

FMLN Reports 673 Army Casualties in July

PA0208130188 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 2 August reports that during the month of July the FMLN inflicted a total of 673 casualties on Napoleon Duarte's pro-U.S. Army, including dead and the wounded. In addition to these 673 casualties, the FMLN informs the general public that it seized the following materiel: 25 rifles of diverse caliber, 2 M-72 LAW rocket launchers, 1 M-79 grenade launcher, 2 PRC-77 military communications radios, 5,940 cartridges, 8 M-79 grenades, 5 claymore mines, 4 hand grenades, 2 rifle grenades, 24 knapsacks, 2 9-mm pistols, 3 M-60 machinegun cartridge belts, and other materiel. The FMLN also destroyed nine military trucks, several jeeps, three small garrisons, and one M-60 machinegun, and damaged one helicopter.

Meanwhile, another group of guerrillas ambushed a military vehicle carrying troops on the coastal highway near Santa Teresa. Three Manuel Jose Arce mines were detonated, partially destroying the vehicle and inflicting 20 casualties, including dead and wounded. The FMLN also seized 3 M-14 rifles, 1,600 7.62-mm cartridges, 1 PRC-77 radio, 5 claymore mines, 4 hand grenades, 1 rifle grenade, and 3 complete sets of military equipment. The criminal civil defense command and the mayor's office in Santa Maria Osuma were partially destroyed, and the National Telecommunications Administration installations were partially destroyed.

At 1345 on 1 August, an FMLN unit clashed with a 2d Infantry Brigade unit in Metapan, Santa Ana, inflicting two casualties on the Army, while at 0800 on 27 July, rebel forces sabotaged two power towers in Aguachapan Department. At 0800 on that same day, a Modesto Ramirez Central Front unit partially destroyed a Salvadoran National Railroads engine between San Francisco farm and San Antonio Grande in northern San Salvador. The Ramirez Front also reports that at 1035 on 1 August, a guerrilla unit inflicted two casualties on Military Detachment No 5 in Llano Grande. At 0900 on 31 July, the FMLN successfully ambushed troops in a military vehicle on the Pan-American Highway between Santa Tecla and Colon, killing four soldiers and wounding four others.

The Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front reports that on 1 August, a guerrilla unit ambushed an enemy unit with two Manuel Jose Arce mines on the Pan-American Highway, inflicting four casualties, including dead and wounded. This incident took place between Ojuste and El Playon, San Vicente Department. At 2300 on 31 July, a rebel unit controlled a stretch of the Caldera highway, attacking a 5th Infantry Brigade patrol protecting power towers. The rebels distributed propaganda but there was no response from the enemy.

Honduras

Azcona Reply to Ortega on Esquipulas Follow-up

PA0208191288 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p 2

[Press Communique No 064-88 issued by the Press and Information Directorate of the Foreign Relations Secretariat in Tegucigalpa on 1 August]

[Text] Press Communique No 064-88

The Press and Information Directorate of the Foreign Relations Secretariat reports to the public the following note sent by Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

"Mr President:

"I acknowledge receipt of your note dated 27 July in which you express your concern about an alleged omission by the Executive Commission regarding verification and follow-up of the referred agreements.

"In this regard, as the constitutional president of Honduras, I am pleased to say my government has been particularly careful to maintain an internal policy strictly according to the law. The result of this invariable conduct is that in Honduras we live in an atmosphere of peace and calmness in total liberty. We have no armed insurgent groups, nor are there clashes among the citizens or between the state and the church or any other institution demanding to live in a democracy.

"In international affairs, I have been equally careful to respect the Honduran people's desire—freely expressed at the polls—of strengthening the ties of friendship with democratic governments and of avoiding alliances with states ruled by totalitarian and repressive governments.

"What is obvious needs no verification: In Honduras, there is total freedom of expression, freedom to create groups, and freedom to transit. People's dignity is respected, and we guarantee the right to work; the right to own private property is also respected. As this was our system of life before Esquipulas II, and it still is, I believe there is no need for a report on the subject.

"I cannot avoid calling your attention, Mr President, to the obvious duality of your government's actions: In January 1987 in Alajuela, you agreed that the CIVS [International Verification and Follow-Up Commission] duties were delegated to the Executive Commission. Today, you seem determined to revive the CIVS.

"At the fifth meeting of the Executive Commission, your foreign minister agreed to create an auxiliary technical group, composed of Canada, Spain, and the FRG, which, with the aid of the UN and OAS secretaries general, would take over some of the duties assigned to the CIVS. During the same meeting, Foreign Minister D'Escoto promised that at the coming meeting to be held in Tegucigalpa he would formally and unconditionally withdraw the charges filed by Nicaragua against Honduras at the International Court of Justice. However, when the delays posed by your government were finally overcome and when the foreign ministers were able to meet, Minister D'Escoto—from the time of his arrival in this city—made statements incompatible with the most basic diplomatic courtesy. He refused to sign the document withdrawing the Nicaraguan charges, thus failing to honor the commitment made in Guatemala, and preventing the fulfillment of the request made by the auxiliary technical group, which is an action that can only be attributed to Minister D'Escoto. Needless to say, the two documents containing the aforementioned resolutions were carefully drafted by the Honduran Foreign Ministry and deserved the approval of the Costa Rican, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan foreign ministers.

"From the preceding, it can be inferred that if there has not been much progress in the Guatemala agreement—in fact, there have been some steps backwards in some aspects—it has not been because of the Honduran Government. Since there is consensus among the four governments on how to strengthen the Esquipulas II process, it is in the hands of the Nicaraguan Government to start up the auxiliary technical group.

"I want to take this opportunity to reiterate to you my highest consideration.

"Jose Azcona H., President of the Republic"

Press and Information Directorate of the Foreign Relations Secretariat

Nicaragua

BARRICADA on Shultz 'Stumbling' in Guatemala

PA0308043488 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p 3

[Editorial: "First Stage in an Interventionist Maneuver"]

[Text] Stumbling during his first stopover on his Latin America tour to try and obtain support for U.S. policies against Nicaragua, George Shultz failed to get the Central American foreign ministers to issue a virtual "declaration of war" against the Esquipulas II agreements.

In one of the Reagan administration's final attempts to corner Nicaragua through diplomatic pressure, Shultz' first step was a bad one on his desperate tour through the area, which will include stopovers in nine countries in only 10 days.

According to the final communique issued after the meeting, Shultz failed to trap the Central American governments, despite the economic and political pressure exerted against Guatemala and Costa Rica which preceded the visit and which was widely reported by both governments.

To go along with the Reagan administration's warmongering policies would be an insult to the sovereignty of the Central American countries, especially as it has been only 1 year since the Esquipulas II agreements were signed. The best homage that could be rendered to the agreements on their first anniversary would be a joint effort to promote the peace efforts and to overcome the obstacles placed in the way of peace by the warmongering Yankees.

Although Shultz failed in this first attempt to obtain the collusion of the Central American governments in putting an end to the Esquipulas agreements, new pressures and blackmail can be expected in the area during the next few days, especially when Shultz returns from South America, where he will visit the "Tegucigalpa bloc" countries. There is no other option but to return to the spirit of the original Esquipulas agreements, to reactivate the verification and follow-up agreement—in relation to which the Nicaraguan Government has proposed the

inclusion of the UN secretary general to work together with the OAS, the Contadora and Support Groups, and the Central American governments.

Shultz' attempt at the Guatemala meeting was only the first of a series of meddling maneuvers in the domestic politics of Latin American countries by which he hopes to gain support for new warmongering actions against Nicaragua.

The secretary of state's visit to South America portends a new stage of U.S. pressure and blackmail, directed in particular at further blocking Central American peace efforts.

Further pressures will be made known within the next few days. We hope that with only a few months left in the Reagan era, the dignity and independence that have characterized relations between the United States and Latin America can be maintained.

Contras Attack Boat Carrying U.S. Citizens

PA0308044488 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0400 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Report by Mario Antonio Zelaya]

[Text] As the tragic result of a contra attack on a civilian boat in El Rama today, (?2 were killed) and 27 were wounded. The people aboard included 10 U.S. citizens, all members of the Baptist convention. Reverend [name indistinct] Walker, who was wounded in the lower right side of his body, was given emergency treatment at the Baptist Hospital in Managua tonight.

The 10 Baptist convention members will hold a news conference at the First Baptist Church at 0900 tomorrow, where they will report on this criminal attack by the contras. According to some of these Baptists, they are still shaken and nervous because of this event, which is the result of the Reagan administration's warmongering policy.

Ortega Reiterates Support for Panama's Noriega

PA0208231388 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p 1

[Article by special correspondent Luis Carlos Perez]

[Text] Managua—We feel proud that Panama and Nicaragua are bravely and firmly fighting imperialist aggression, Daniel Ortega, Nicaraguan president and commander of the revolution, has told CRITICA.

The Nicaraguan president's statement was made at the end of a ceremony at the "Omar Torrijos H." Nonaligned Park, where a bust was unveiled on 31 July to commemorate the 7th anniversary of Torrijos' death.

President Ortega said the struggle against imperialist aggression is led by Panama and Nicaragua, which brandish Torrijos' banner. Ortega noted that before Torrijos, Sandino held aloft the same banner and that the Panamanian people have always supported "this struggle for self-determination and freedom."

Ortega also highlighted the important role played by the Defense Forces, led by General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Ortega said Gen Noriega has been openly and insolently threatened by U.S. imperialism. "We have condemned the plot to assassinate Gen Noriega, because in the United States there is an open conspiracy against Panama, against Gen Noriega, and against the Defense Forces," President Ortega said.

In his statement to CRITICA, the Nicaraguan president said the Managua ceremony to honor the memory of General Omar Torrijos Herrera is a reiteration of the ties that bind both peoples and of the struggle the Torrijist and Sandinist peoples have been waging. "Our sister governments of Panama and Nicaragua, as well as the Democratic Revolutionary Party and the FSLN, have mutual goals to fight for and mutual problems to face," he concluded.

Ortega Commemorates Poet Ruben Dario

PA3107144088 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1814 GMT 30 Jul 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at the Municipal Theater in Leon on the occasion of the centennial of the publication of "Azul," a collection of poems by poet Ruben Dario—live]

[Excerpts] Good morning, Nicaraguan brothers, brothers of Leon. As leaders of this country, as members of the FSLN Directorate, we are proud to be commemorating here in Leon, Nicaragua, in this place where in 1907 the voice of Ruben could be heard, to be celebrating with the people of Leon, with his simple expressions, the centennial of "Azul." This popular event, which reflects our reality, is an event that is not filled with sophistication, but it has been filled with spontaneous, simple expressions, born of the most heartfelt feelings of our people.

This morning we are beginning the celebration of "Azul" with this popular event that takes us back to 1907, when Dario spoke to the people here, to the Nicaraguan people, with his heart and soul. We are proud to be part of this warm celebration, to speak to you Nicaraguan brothers, to speak to the people of Leon, during the "Azul" centennial celebration. Undoubtedly the work of Dario is immortal. [passage omitted]

Dario spoke for the future of America, in the face of the United States, when—he put it well—he said that [the United States] was the future invader. Dario, who spoke for the present and the future, through his thoughts and through our actions, is the protagonist of our history—Sandino and Dario, Dario and Sandino—[FSLN founder] Carlos [Fonseca Amador] summed up in the FSLN the strength of Dario's words and the strength of Sandino's actions. [applause]

Dario is with the people everyday, with the working and simple people, with the people who have come here today to render tribute to the master, to render tribute to Dario. Dario is present in the combat being waged by the Nicaraguan people to achieve peace. This combat has to be expressed in diverse ways. It has to be expressed in the military field; it has to be expressed in the political and ideological fields; it has to be expressed in production. Dario is in our fighters of the Sandinist People's Army. He is alive and present everyday in our fighters of the Interior Ministry, in the workers, peasants, working people of Nicaragua—there is Dario, immortal, omnipresent, walking with us, defending this revolution with us, building a future of peace that must be achieved by us.

One day we met in Managua with a group of Nicaraguan writers of different generations. I was asked what our revolution expected. I believe that during the celebration of the centennial of "Azul," we should take Dario as an example. He did not ask what the Nicaraguans expected of Dario, but acted first, worked first for Nicaragua. And that is what must be asked by those who do not find an answer. What is expected of me? What can I do for myself and for the rest? What can I do for the workers, for the peasants? What can I do for the revolution? What can I do for the art of the revolution?

Dario is an example of the creative initiative during difficult circumstances, in complex circumstances. And I cannot fail to recognize that, throughout our history, there have been great authors, great poets who have not stopped to ask the people how to start working. They worked and the people recognized their work later. Men, women, authors, and creators have acted with that strength. With the people, Dario had to survive, even during the worst of times. And during this "Azul" centennial, when poetry, songs, dancing, theater, and all the different forms of artistic expression are celebrated in our country, the best tribute we can render to our people, the best tribute we can render to Dario, the best effort we can make—thinking in fact about our own individuality—is that which will fill our actions with energy, strength, honesty, simplicity, and humility. [passage omitted]

We are commemorating the first 100 years of "Azul," a book whose first edition was printed in Chile. We cannot avoid talking about Chile, that brother country that is immersed in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean, that hospitable nation that welcomed Dario like another Chilean. That nation today withstands the brutal oppression of a regime imposed and defended by the Yankees, a regime that makes the Yankees feel proud and unashamed.

A U.S. spokesman was asked yesterday if Secretary Shultz, who will attend President Rodrigo Borja's inauguration in Quito, would meet with Castro or with Ortega. The spokesman immediately answered no, adding that Shultz already had his agenda, and he would meet with others, including the foreign minister of Chile. He will surely not meet with the Chilean foreign minister to eliminate Pinochet; he will meet with the Chilean foreign minister to continue supporting Pinochet and to continue the oppression of the Chilean people.

However, the Yankees, Shultz, Reagan, and U.S. imperialism must not forget that the Chilean people—the people of Salvador Allende, Pablo Neruda, heroic miners and factory workers—are people who carry in their blood the fire and strength all the people need to attain their full independence and liberation. Nicaragua became free on 19 July 1979, and the brother Chilean people who welcomed Dario will be free, will be free because they want to and because they have so decided. [passage omitted]

On this 100th anniversary of "Azul," Ruben Dario's words are still applicable: May the eternal God grant that what is a reality in Central American literature become a reality in Central American politics, given historical laws and our civilization's needs. Eternal God, Dario's prophecy became a reality in Nicaragua on 19 July 1979! [applause] Eternal God, let the Central American people decide the construction of their peace, justice, and freedom in the near future! [applause]

On this 100th anniversary of Ruben Dario's book, I would like to join our people's celebration, because it is the people who rule here. The humble and working people are the only ones who can rule. [passage omitted]

Panama

PRD, Opposition Parties View 1989 Elections

PA0208180588 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The Panamanian opposition has said there is no freedom, democracy, and justice to hold elections in 1989.

However, the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], Panama's ruling party, affirms elections will prevent political confrontations and will solve the national crisis.

The leaders of the Authentic Panamenist Party are the great absent party, because from the very beginning they have refused to discuss the Electoral Code amendment bill and instructed their legislators not to participate in the special Assembly sessions, because there are no conditions to hold elections in this country. The People's Action Party is not attending the Assembly discussions either.

The leaders of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] have advocated authentic democracy. They proposed the formation of a national reconciliation government; the holding of a national referendum to decide the political future of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces; and conditions that will guarantee fair elections.

[PDC leader Ricardo Arias Calderon] "We proposed the installation of a new government of national reconciliation. I described that government not only as a government that will not take revenge on its opponents, but as a temporary government that will share the responsibility of facing the country's serious economic crisis and will lead the country toward honest elections.

"The PDC political thesis is the need to reach a democratizing agreement as a solution to the crisis, but an agreement signed by the parties history will have chosen."

The PRD delegation reiterated that the 1989 elections are the proper mechanism for Panamanians to settle their political disagreements.

The PRD delegates asserted that the democratic solution large national sectors demand must be achieved in accordance with the Constitution and without foreign influences, which do not lead to fair, political solutions.

[PRD representative; in progress] "...that will prevent social confrontations, bloodshed, and internal struggle within Panamanian society. We would be naive to think we are organizing an electoral process in a normal, untroubled country. On the contrary, we are living in a country attacked by the United States and with a difficult economic situation."

The opposition bloc agreed the country cannot take another electoral fraud and it asserted it believes in free, democratic elections.

The National Liberal Republican Party [Molirena] pointed out the need for democratic freedom.

[Molirena representative] "In accordance with its constant criticism of and protest against the country's ill-fated situation, and loyal to its unwavering committment to continue struggling until a democratic and authentically civilian government is inaugurated in Panama, Molirena has publicly announced its decision to attend the Legislative Assembly debates on the electoral amendment bill, not to play the government's game and support its perverse objectives, but to fiercely fight them within an organization in which Molirena can do so, because it belongs to and attends the Legislative Assembly with clean credentials."

People's Party Demands 'Democratic' Elections

PA0208191888 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Statement by People's Party Executive Secretary Miguel Porcell; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] We are against all things hindering people's participation in the elections. The only way to have people's participation in truly democratic elections is to put all communications and propaganda media at the service of all ideologies and parties regardless of which ones they are.

If there are no equal opportunities to conduct electoral publicity campaigns, there are no equal rights; therefore, there is no democracy.

If elections were based on who has more money, they would not be democratic elections. We believe everybody should participate in the elections, and the people's right to elect their mayors must not be restricted. We believe people have a right—and must have a right—to elect their mayors. To restrict that right is to restrict Panamanian democracy.

Elections are not the solution to the crisis. That is understood. The crisis is deeper than that. There is an overall crisis, which will not be solved by going backward, with or without elections.

The government must go forward, seeking solutions in accordance with our people's unique traits. They must be patriotic solutions.

U.S. Actions Said To Aid Communists

PA0208172188 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p A-4

[Editorial]

[Text] The overt or covert activities of communist elements have been observed in our country for many decades. These activities were either carried out in groups or individually. We must remember their activities have been carried out in complete secrecy in the past; our laws did not recognize the extremist organizations' legitimacy. Several years after 1968, when the doors of democratic pluralism were opened, political parties with communist tendencies began to operate within a legal framework. Their work has been carried out without any limitation since then. Their permanent struggle has mostly sought to discredit our institutions. Despite our democratic vocation, their efforts have been aimed at proving this is an exploitative system and that man's happiness can only be attained through a socialist regime.

Much time has gone by since Panamanian communist elements began their activities in our country. They have failed to attain their goals despite all their efforts. Nevertheless, it is a paradox that the U.S. Government's interference in our internal affairs has managed to destroy the Panamanian economic system and a great part of our democratic institutions. In a few weeks, the U.S. aggression has attained the goals that could not be attained by the extremists in many decades. It is all a historical irony. The repressive measures adopted by the U.S. Government's leaders have progressively eradicated a system they sponsored and strengthened. That is why their persistent aggression against an economic and political system they claim to represent and lead is totally inexplicable.

The local communists' golden dreams have become a reality, thanks to the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government has prepared the ground for a system that the

Panamanian people have rejected by tradition and will continue to reject by conviction. A destructive feat has been carried out. The U.S. Government's efforts to subjugate our national government has virtually led to the annihilation of our economic system, and our democratic institutions are on the same road....

The U.S. Government has weakened our economic structures and changed our political activities. The U.S. Government's myopia and arrogance have deeply hurt our national conscience. Therefore, it is imperative that the U.S. leaders wake up and view their attitude toward Panama and the Panamanian people very closely and objectively. They have mercilessly attacked a friendly nation that has a democratic vocation. They have tried to destroy its economic and political structures. Thus, in a few weeks, they have achieved what the local communists never could. They still have time to reconsider.

Consultation, Advisory Commission Appointed
PA0108210688 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 1 Aug 88 p 2

[Text] The Consultation and Political Advisory Commission of the executive branch will be installed on 5 August, the Presidency of the Republic has announced. The report adds the commission will be entrusted with providing consultation and observing the evolution of the recommendations that have been made and will be made by the Commission for a National Dialogue.

The former commission had been formed during a luncheon hosted by President Manuel Solis Palma for members and alternates of the organization who were appointed by government Decree No 75 dated 29 July 1988. Solis Palma says the commission will devote its efforts mainly to the development of the 1989 elections, within the framework of the constitutional and legal order of the Republic of Panama.

The Consultation and Political Advisory Commission will comprise the Panamenist Revolutionary Party [PPR], Labor Party [PALA], Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], town hall groups, People's Power, People's Unity Front [FUP], People's Party [PdP], Democratic Party of the Workers [PDT], Republican Party [PR], Nationalist Action Party, Indian groups, small enterprise groups, Liberal Party [PL], student groups, and the Panama Defense Forces [FDP].

These 16 [as published] sectors of the Consultation and Political Advisory Commission of the executive branch will be represented by the following people:

PPR: Luis Gaspar Suarez, main representative, and Teodoro Navas and Leonidas Quintero, alternates

PALA: Enrique Victoria, main representative, Aureliano Gomez and Nicolas Alvarado, alternates

PRD: Darien Ayala, main representative, and Juan Hernandez and Marcela F. de Rodriguez, alternates

Town hall groups: Oscar Navarro, main representative, and Lucrecia Herrera Cosarelli and Jose Gonzalez, alternates

FUP: Hector Aleman, main representative, and Julio Bermudez and Jose Manuel Meneses, alternates

PdP: Cesar De Leon, main representative, and Cleto Sousa and Carlos Francisco Changmarin, alternates

PDT: Eduardo Rios, main representative, and Clifton Bonner and Carlos Rios, alternates

PR: Jose Young, main representative, and Elmer Tobon and Alfonso Palacios, alternates.

Nationalist Action Party: Mirla L. Diaz, main representative, and Enrique Cordoba and Fanor Fabio Franchechi, alternates.

Indian groups: Aguilardo Perez, main representative, and Justo Gallegos and Fulgencio Johnson, alternates

Women's group: Taira Barsallo, main representative, and Zelideth Maritza Rosales and Aida Rosa de Gonzalez, alternates.

Small enterprise group: Samuel Anderson, main representative, and Heladio Richards and Enrique Nunez, alternates

Student group: Angel Valdes, main representative, and Jose Didimo Escobar and Javier Henriquez, alternates

FDP: Colonel Julio Ow Young, main representative, and Majors Armando Palacios Gondola and Cesar Dominguez, alternates

These are the 16 sectors participating in the Consultation and Political Advisory Commission, which is an organization that will guide and support the executive branch in the difficult situation the country is experiencing.

[In a related report, Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish at 1100 GMT on 31 July adds that People's Power will be represented by Belisario Rodriguez, main representative, and Omar Quintero and Norberto

Dominguez, alternates; and the PL will be represented by Gonzalo Tapia Collante, main representative, and Mario Arosemena and Victor Yun, alternates.]

Briefs

New Ambassador to Argentina

Eligio Salas has been officially appointed Panamanian ambassador to Argentina. The ceremony was held at Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter's office and was attended by top-level Foreign Ministry and Democratic Revolutionary Party officials. [Summary] [*PA0208160588 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p B-5*]

New Envoy to S. Korea

Sucrys Ali Avila has been appointed new Panamanian ambassador to the ROK, a country with strong commercial relations with Panama. The new diplomat is a member of the new generation that has joined Panama's foreign service. [Excerpts] [*PA0208161988 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p A-4*]

Argentina

Alfonsin Meets With U.S. Secretary of State

PY0208234688 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (DYN)—Today President Raul Alfonsin and U.S. Secretary of State Geroge Shultz held a meeting which was characterized as "highly relaxed". During the meeting, Alfonsin expressed the need to find "unconventional" mechanisms to resolve the Latin American foreign debt problem.

Presidential Spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez reported this during a meeting with journalists in the government house press room. Lopez added that Alfonsin and Shultz "shared the same point of view on some of the topics that were discussed" regarding Latin American issues and those pertaining to the Americas in general.

10,000 Protest Visit

PY0308033088 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0249 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (NA)—Tonight about 10,000 people, most of them members of political parties, gathered in front of the Congress building. They demanded that Congress declare Secretary of State George Shultz "persona non grata." No incidents were reported during the march.

The demonstrators, who repudiated Shultz' presence in Argentina, burned American flags and red, white, and blue effigies.

The march, which was called by several leftist parties and the Buenos Aires Peronist Youth sector, ended without any incidents. The objective of the march was to charge that "imperialism" is trying "to subjugate Argentina at the economic, political, and military levels." The marchers also stated that Shultz "is in Argentina to supervise the present economic policy and justify the death of 300 Iranians traveling aboard the recently downed plane and to undermine the Nicaraguan revolution."

The columns from the Broad Front for Liberation (FRAL), the Social Affirmation Movement (MAS), the Workers Party (PO), and the Workers for Socialism Party [Partido de los Trabajadores por el Socialismo—PTS] left from the Obelisk monument; the Peronist Youth and the Intransigent Party left from Callao and Corrientes Avenues. [passage omitted]

The leftist column was headed by Hugo Manes, Athos Fava, Luis Zamora, Silvia Diaz, Lisandro Viale, Nestor Vicente, and Raul Tumini, among other leaders. [passage omitted]

Intransigent Deputies Comment

PY0208233488 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2245 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (DYN)—The Intransigent Party bloc in the Chamber of Deputies expressed its "repudiation" of Secretary of State George Shultz' visit and extended its support "to the march against Ronald Reagan's envoy."

The statement signed by Deputies Oscar Allende, Miguel Monserrat, Luis Manrique, Jose Aramburu, and Raul Rabanaque Cavallero states that Shultz "is a loyal representative of the national security doctrine which includes interference in the internal affairs of countries like Nicaragua, Panama, Haiti, and Grenada and increased dependence through the foreign debt."

The Intransigent Party deputies bloc believes it is a "cynical act" to say that Shultz' presence in Argentina "is in support of the resurgence of democracy in the hemisphere and the efforts to attain economic growth and social justice."

The declaration concludes by stating: "The United States has always been allied with domineering native groups and has supported them in their policies of surrender, impoverishment, and violation of human rights. The Argentine people cannot be happy about the visit of Reagan's envoy."

Sourrouille To Announce Economic Measures 3 Aug

PY0208123888 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1156 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (NA)—Tomorrow Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille will announce the new anti-inflationary measures. Therefore, the bank and exchange holiday will be extended for another 24 hours. A plan to attempt to reduce the state's spending drastically was announced last night.

An economy ministry source told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that the government, probably through President Raul Alfonsin, will call in business and labor leaders to try to achieve "a quick agreement" on the indexation of prices and salaries. [passage omitted]

Fuel, Utilities, Transportation Prices To Rise

Fuel Price Increases

PY0208220988 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2059 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (NA)—The Energy Secretariat officially reported that beginning at midnight tonight the cost of fuels will have "an average increase" of 30.08 percent. The source said premium gasoline will cost 7.05 australes per liter—an increase of 29.36 percent—and regular gasoline will cost 5.90 australes per liter—an increase of 29.10 percent.

The price of heating oil increased by 31.59 percent. Its new price will be 1.60 australes per kg. Gasoil was increased by 30.88 percent, and its new price will be 4.45 australes per liter.

Beginning tomorrow, natural gas supplied by underground pipes will also be raised by 30 percent.

The state gas enterprise said the increases will be applied equally to home consumption, industrial consumption, and gas used by public power plants. The price of wholesale liquefied gas was also raised by 30 percent.

Electricity Rate Hikes

PY0208232988 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2235 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (TELAM)—As of tomorrow, electricity rates will be readjusted by an average of 30 percent. This will affect all of the electricity supplied by SEGBA [Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services].

Electricity rates in private residences with a consumption of up to 250 kw per hour will be readjusted by 25 percent. Any surplus consumption will be readjusted by 30 percent.

Rates for medium-size consumers will be readjusted by an average of 32.9 percent, while large-size consumers will have their rates readjusted by 30.2 percent.

Transport Fare Increases

PY0308032088 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Text] The increase in public transport fares will average 27.7 percent for highway transportation, while railroad transportation and commercial flight fares will increase by 30 percent. These adjustments will take effect at 0000 3 August.

Thus, in the capital and greater Buenos Aires, bus fares will be 2.3 australes.

CLARIN Predicts Goverment's Economic Moves

PY0308030088 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 2 Aug 88 p 12

[Text] With the annoucement of a 30-percent increase in the utility rates last night, today the government began to implement the new economic plan. The main feature of the plan is the plea the president of the Republic will make to businessmen asking them to observe a price truce after an initial 5-percent increase.

The economic package will include a 25-percent wage increase for the public sector employees; after this, however, their salaries, utility rates, and the commercial exchange rate will be temporarily frozen.

The complete economic package will be released to the public today or tomorrow. The exchange and banking holiday will be extended until then. These are the economic measures:

—A government summons to businessmen to support an anti-inflationary policy envisaging a 5-percent increase of prices in August and a temporary freeze of public utility rates, the commercial exchange rate, and public sector wages.

—In case the businessmen do not accept the government request, the government will unilaterally declare a price freeze.

—The businessmen will be summoned on 3 August.

—Before freezing the exchange rate, the Central Bank will adjust the commercial exchange rate by 9 percent, to 11.73 australes, effective the first day the markets open.

—The financial exchange rate will be adjusted by 20 percent over the commercial exchange rate. With a controlled floating foreign exchange rate, the dollar rate will fluctuate on the first day of operations at around 14 australes.

—A 25-percent increase for public employees' wages, which will then be frozen.

—If the businessmen agree to the government's proposal for a 5-percent price increase in August, interest rates will rise to between 2 and 3 points over 5 percent.

—Interest rates on deposits will be on the order of 7 percent. Interest rates on loans will stand at 8 percent.

—The interest rate level will depend on the expectations raised by financial operators: If their credibility is low, it is expected that interest rates will surpass 10 percent.

—No discounts will be applied within the financial system.

—Consequently, no deductions will be made from deposits, checking accounts, or savings accounts.

—The Economy Ministry has rejected the possibility of reducing the August house rent adjustments, which will increase by approximately 23 percent owing to the July inflation rate.

—The final word has not yet been said on this subject because the UCR continues to press for some relief measures for tenants through a reduction in the rent cost, as occurred in October last year.

—A dual money exchange market will be established. Duties on agricultural exports will be calculated on the basis of the commercial dollar rate, which will entail the virtual reestablishment of the 20-percent foreign exchange withholding on agrarian exports.

—Imports of medicines will be calculated on the basis of the lowest dollar rate (the commercial rate).

—Exports and imports of non-traditional (industrial) commodities will be calculated on the basis of the financial dollar. This will entail an additional 20-percent devaluation of the austral concerning these commodities.

—All reimbursements and benefits implemented through special export programs will be discontinued.

—Export duties will be reduced between 5 and 10 percent.

—The monetary program will also require an increase in bank reserves to bring about a higher real interest rate.

—Annex 2 on imports with prior authorization will be reduced to a minimum.

CGT Rejects New Government Economic Measures

PY0308014188 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2230 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (NA)—Today the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] rejected the "fallacy of a pretended utility rates freeze for 60 days," and it added that the workers "are not willing to be yoked as slaves to the cart for the failure of this socio-economic leadership, which we reject." The CGT also demanded a democracy with equality and social justice, which "must be rescued from hesitant handling, operational incompetence, and technical insolvency."

In a communique signed by CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini, the CGT expresses its conviction that the government measures have been adopted in "collusion with domestic speculation and international usury," making "the active and retired workers the main victims."

"The government has once again made use of the secrecy of the technocratic clique to make decisions on the people's well-being without any previous consultation or warning, through authoritarianism that brutally imposes on us the consequences of a consummated affair," the communique adds.

According to the CGT, which released its communique at the end of a board council meeting by Ubaldini, the official announcements "released drop by drop and the reports released through an official source show that this new package of misfortunes puts all the burden for the failure of the official socio-economic policy and the pressures imposed by foreign usury on those sectors with fixed incomes, on active and retired workers, on consumption and production, and on regional economies."

The communique adds that this policy favors "exclusively the owners of foreign currency, whether money or bonds, thus creating the ideal conditions for a bonanza that will only be enjoyed by speculators."

"The measures on exchange and utility rates will have a negative impact on salaries, since their value is diminishing as a consequence of the rapid price increase of staples and medicines. The preventive utility rate and price increase measures are designed to allow the government to claim a stability that was agreed upon with the great oligopolistic corporations that control our market," the CGT document states.

The CGT reiterated that "organized workers will not tolerate a justification of the recession in consumption by exerting pressure at the labor business government bargaining talks," because it would "go against the ethic and social content of the collective bargaining law." [passage omitted]

Peronist Deputies Call for New Economic Team

PY0308015688 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Aug (NA)—Today the Peronist deputies bloc opposed the government economic measures and warned that "a new, credible economic team must be designated." The Peronists also proposed an across-the-board wage increase and called upon all political parties and social organizations to prepare an "emergency plan."

The bloc's communique was issued tonight in the Chamber of Deputies with a headline stressing the need for "other measures the Argentines are expecting."

Alfonsin Meets With FRG Economics Minister

PY0208144588 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1706 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Aug (TELAM)—Today President Raul Alfonsin and FRG Economics Minister Martin Bangemann met in the Olivos residence and agreed on the need for further studies by the mixed commission of the two countries aimed at increasing FRG investments in Argentina.

This information was provided by Bangemann at the conclusion of a meeting with Alfonsin in the Olivos residence. Bangemann announced that the Argentine-FRG Mixed Commission will meet in October to speed up the FRG investment projects in Argentina.

Bangemann said that there are several offers from FRG companies to invest in Argentina and that he expects that these offers will contribute to expanding bilateral relations.

Bangemann also said that another issue discussed with Alfonsin was how to improve the offers made by the Siemens company and the FRG Government in relation to better financing for the second Argentine nuclear plant.

Bangemann indicated that the international economic situation was discussed and that he explained to President Alfonsin the progress being made in the EEC such as the creation of an internal market.

He added that he agreed with Alfonsin that cooperation, at the regional level and between Latin American and Europe, is an important element in improving international commercial relations.

Argentine Economy Minister Juan Vital Sourrouille also attended the meeting between Bangemann and President Alfonsin.

Caputo Meets Italian, FRG, EEC Officials

PY0208154188 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2252 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Aug (TELAM)—Today Foreign Minister Dante Caputo discussed the international situation and bilateral relations with Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Susana Agnelli, FRG Economics Minister Martin Bangemann, and EEC Foreign Relations Commissioner Willy le Clerq.

Caputo met with Agnelli in the morning and then with Bangemann and le Clerq in the afternoon.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Guillermo McGough said that Caputo and Susana Agnelli discussed the Central and Latin American situations. Argentine-Italian relations were also discussed in detail.

Regarding the agreement [not further identified] with Italy, McGough said that the evolution of the agreement and future possibilities were discussed. The approval of the agreement by the Argentine Congress, which McGough said would be made next week, was also discussed. Work on various projects will begin once congressional approval has been granted.

Caputo and Bangemann discussed the international economic situation. Bangemann explained, after his meeting with Caputo, what is currently happening in the EEC.

Bangemann said: We hope to get the full integration of the 12 EEC countries which will form a region of 320 million people. This would be a very interesting example for countries like Argentina.

Caputo also met with EEC Foreign Relations Commissioner Willy le Clerq to discuss EEC subsidies and protectionist policies.

Also discussed was the unification of the EEC internal market, which will begin in 1992. The unification of the market will mean that products coming into an EEC country will circulate freely through the 12 EEC countries without going through customs.

Bolivia

Paz, Brazil's Sarney on Increased Integration

PY0209143588 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] President Victor Paz Estenssoro said that the visit by Brazilian President Jose Sarney facilitated accords between the two countries within the framework of Latin American integration.

Yesterday Paz awarded the Great Collar of the Condor of the Andes to his Brazilian counterpart, who in turn awarded the highest level of the Rio Branco do Sul decoration to Victor Paz.

Today the Bolivian president said that the seed of integration has yielded fruit, reflected in the conscience of our motherlands. In the past, the Bolivarian idea of a [words indistinct] congress served as inspiration for the much desired unity, adding that the Bolivian and Brazilian Governments have restored democracy. Paz said that this is a time of great challenge, in which modernization calls for the use of scientific and technological resources.

The Bolivian president said that the meeting with his Brazilian counterpart made it possible for the two countries to pursue new practical possibilities through concrete action. He added: We are fulfilling a historical duty and we are opening the path that will yield reciprocal benefits, in which the integrated use of power sources will be the focal point of several plans and programs of great significance for the future. The ceremony was held at the government palace hall.

President Paz said that the two countries should defend society and that they should design a joint plan to fight drug trafficking and thus defend the traditions of both countries.

President Sarney said that his country is willing to cooperate with the Bolivian effort to achieve stability and development, adding that Brazil is aware of the current problems and that they must be faced with similar tactics.

The Brazilian president said that only with integration will it be possible for the two countries to fulfill the aspirations that they cherish, adding that Bolivia is doing everything in its power to solve a serious situation and that the country needs support.

Sarney said that documents must be signed to promote regional programs and to meet the current challenges, adding that Brazil believes that Bolivia needs a more resolute cooperation effort in order to fulfill the targets of the studies that are being analyzed by technical committees of both countries.

Agreements Signed

PY0308011688 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Report by Ireneu Tamanini from La Paz]

[Excerpt] Beginning in 1992, Brazil will purchase 3 million cubic meters of gas per day from Bolivia. The agreement was signed a few minutes ago by Presidents Jose Sarney and Victor Paz Estenssoro at the Bolivian Central Bank in La Paz. The two countries also signed an agreement for the repression of drug trafficking and for further cooperation in this field, including the rehabilitation of addicts and the cor rol of chemicals used in the manufacturing of drugs.

The two presidents signed 10 agreements and a joint declaration.

In the declaration the two presidents expressed their support for the understanding between the United States and the Soviet Union in the field of nuclear arms control. The presidents also condemned the apartheid regime in the RSA and the protectionist policies of industrialized countries.

The other agreements the two presidents signed today are:

An agreement for the construction of a hydroelectric project in Cachuela de Esperanza on the Bolivian side of the border. Brazil will purchase 90 percent of the electric output of the plant to supply electricity to Rondonia.

An agreement covering diplomatic and public servants' passports and an agreement for assistance to abandoned children.

An agreement providing for the construction of a railroad linking Santa Cruz, Bolivia, and Corumba in Mato Grosso State, Brazil. [passage omitted]

Joint Declaration Issued

PY0308023388 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Report by Facundo Hurtado]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Today President Victor Paz Estenssoro and his Brazilian counterpart, Jose Sarney, signed a joint declaration. Here are highlights of the declaration:

The two presidents reiterated their governments' full endorsement of the principles and goals established in the United Nations and OAS Charters, especially concerning the sovereign equality of all states and the respect for each country's political independence and territorial integrity.

The two presidents have emphasized the significance of the U.S.-Soviet agreement on the elimination of medium-range and short-range nuclear weapons. They have reiterated their rejection of every form of racial discrimination and renewed their strong condemnation of the apartheid regime in South Africa.

The Bolivian president discussed the Bolivian desire to regain a sea outlet and briefed his Brazilian counterpart on the rapprochement and goodwill dialogue adopted by the Bolivian Government in its negotiations with the Chilean Government.

The Brazilian president reaffirmed Brazil's traditional support for the Bolivian position and his country's willingness to contribute to finding a mutually satisfactory solution to the parties involved through friendly negotiations.

The two presidents also expressed their satisfaction for the support elicited from the international community by the 41st UN General Assembly Resolution No 41/11, which instituted a peace and cooperation zone in the South Atlantic. They expressed their desire that all countries contribute to promoting the objectives of this resolution. [passage omitted]

Brazilian Minister Discusses Drug Trafficking

PY0208145288 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] One of the objectives of Justice Minister Paulo Brossard's talks with several Bolivian officials in La Paz is to intensify the fight against drug trafficking along the border.

In an interview with reporter Irineu Tamanini, Minister Brossard points out the importance of President Sarney's visit to Bolivia:

[Begin recording] [Brossard] The interests of our two countries are very similar. As the two countries grow, the ties resulting from these common interests tend to become stronger. Therefore, it is important that these interests be analyzed in a pleasant atmosphere of understanding, such as the one prevailing in our current talks.

[Tamanini] Did you come to Bolivia to discuss drug trafficking control?

[Brossard] Drug trafficking is a scourge that currently affects the world, and Bolivia is a well-known drug producing center. It is evident, therefore, that this issue must be discussed, and I have already done this with my Bolivian counterpart. In our future talks, however, we will discuss drug trafficking again along with other topics.

Lawmakers Ask Soviets About Changes in USSR

PY0208150388 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpt] On Monday afternoon the Supreme Soviet delegation that is visiting Bolivia met with leaders of several political parties holding seats in Congress. The meeting, which was held at the library of Congress, was attended by ADN Deputy Walter Soriano, the vice president of the House; Guido Riveros and Jorge Kohler, who are members of the New Majority faction of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left]; Christian Democratic Party leader Benjamin Miguel Harb; Patriotic Convergence Axis leader Walter Vasquez; leftist Revolutionary Front leader Guillermo Richter; Free Bolivia Movement leader Alfonso Ferrufino; and Tupac Katari leader Victor Hugo Cardenas.

The Bolivian lawmakers asked the Soviet delegates about the political opening in the USSR and its influence on Latin America. [passage omitted]

Joint Communique Issued

PY0308020088 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spansih 0000 GMT 3 Aug 88

[Text] In a joint Bolivian-Soviet communique signed today, 2 August, Bolivian lawmakers described as serious the problems stemming from the growing illegal trade of narcotics in the world and announced their decision to fight this dangerous evil both domestically and internationally. Decisions previously made by the international conference to fight drug abuse and its illegal trade were also endorsed.

The communique states that it is important to strengthen and broaden political and cooperation ties, especially between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Bolivian Congress, which are the appropriate channels for conducting a political dialogue between the two peoples.

The lawmakers agreed that the two countries are not taking advantage of the existing opportunities in the fields of economic and trade cooperation. They added that the decisions of the third meeting of the Soviet-Bolivian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Trade Cooperation and three possible specific measures will contribute to strengthening cooperation and to promoting issues of mutual interest to both parties.

The communique adds that the Bolivian delegation conveyed to the Soviet delegation the Bolivian claim for a sea outlet to the Pacific Ocean, expressing concern over the current status of this issue despite the Bolivian efforts.

The Soviet delegation reaffirmed its support for the principle of finding solutions to international conflicts through peaceful means, through negotiations among all parties involved to strengthen good neighbourly relations and cooperation in the region.

Pulat Khabibullayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, delivered a brief speech to the Bolivian congressmen. [recorded passage indistinct]

Magazine Editors Arrested; COB To Protest

PY0208121188 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] This afternoon the editors and assistants of the weekly magazine AQUI were arrested. This report was made by COB Secretary General Simon Reyes. Reyes called on journalist unions to speak out against the arrests.

This is a new form of persecution against the press, Reyes said, and he added that COB will submit an official protest to the Interior Ministry.

Reyes said the government must understand that the use of repression is not the best way to solve conflicts. Reyes added that the present social mobilizations were provoked by the problems burdening Bolivian homes.

Reyes said that some of the media is committed to helping the people, and it is their responsibility to denounce [words indistinct], but this should not be considered reason enough for using repression against them, Reyes said.

Reyes said the COB has also been told of the arrest of the director of Radio Continental; Radio Continental is a factory workers radio station in La Paz.

Brazil

Nobrega: Economic Policy 'Not About To Change'

PY0308000288 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 2 Aug 88 p 16

[Text] Brasilia—Yesterday the two ministers of the economic area, Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega and Planning Minister Joao Batista de Abreu, both denied any government intention of using the salary and price reduction index proposed by the Simonsen plan to fight inflation.

Minister Nobrega categorically stated that the government's economic policy is not about to change.

A few minutes after President Sarney left the Air Force base on his trip to Bolivia, Minister Joao Batista de Abreu—who was granting an interview only a few meters from the finance minister—seemed surprised at the importance being given to the issue. I have never seen so much excitement over nonexistent things, the planning minister indignantly told the reporters who insisted on asking more questions.

In simultaneous speeches, the two ministers repeated the idea that the implementation of a salary and price reduction index would automatically become infeasible if fiscal and monetary adjustments are not made, and

these adjustments are the priority objective of the government economic policy. The planning minister recalled that Simonsen himself has pointed out that if the prerequisites of having a well-adjusted fiscal policy and an active monetary policy are not met, the idea of the reduction index is not feasible.

With the same reasoning, Mailson da Nobrega admitted that the Simonsen plan is being studied, as well as other suggestions presented, such as that presented by Mario Amato. Nobrega said that he sees no sign of success "without a strong attack on the public deficit."

Hugo Napoleao Named Acting Culture Minister

PY0208141288 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Report by Sonia Filgueras from the Culture Ministry]

[Excerpts] Education Minister Hugo Napoleao has been sworn in as acting culture minister until President Jose Sarney appoints a new culture minister.

In his speech, Minister Hugo Napoleao, who is the fourth culture minister since the ministry's creation in March 1985, said he will continue the work started by former Minister Celso Furtado.

Napoleao does not believe the Education and Culture Ministries will be merged. [passage omitted]

Very few congressmen attended the swearing in ceremony. Most of those present were Culture Ministry employees.

Briefs

New Socialist Party

Yesterday at the Zaccaro Theater in the Bela Vista neighborhood of Sao Paulo the Brazilian Democratic Socialist Party, PSDB, was formally created. Judging by the speeches of its leaders, Senator Mario Covas, former Sao Paulo Governor Franco Montoro, and Parana State Governor Jose Richa, among others, the PSDB will be an opposition party. The symbol of the party will be a toucan bird. [Summary] [*PY0208123188 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 Jul 88 p 4*]

Chile

FRG's Genscher Requests Diplomat's Protection

LD0208111688 Hamburg DPA in German 1036 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Today Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher sharply requested that the Chilean Government adopt measures to protect diplomats. In a letter to Foreign Minister Richardo Garcia, which was released by the Foreign Ministry in Bonn, he emphatically demands adequate protection for German diplomats while carrying out their work.

The background to the letter is the restriction by the Chilean Supreme Court of diplomatic immunity for Embassy Counselor Ulrich Spohn and Consul Horst Kriegler. The letter was presented personally by Ambassador Guenther Knackstedt on Monday. The measures against the two diplomats were taken in connection with the Embassy's inquiries in the Colonia Dignidad settlement which is mainly occupied by Germans.

Genscher underlined that the two German diplomats had been active on his direct instructions. He announced that a report has been sent to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar.

The Federal Republic has so far exercised restraint because Chile has held out the prospect of "steps." "The absence of relevant guarantees leads one now to conclude that the Chilean state is unwilling to adopt effective measures for the protection of foreign diplomats," Genscher wrote. He once again referred to the still unclear events in the Colonia Dignidad settlement. Only a few weeks ago, a young escapee had been taken back to the camp apparently against his will.

Government Responds

PY0208233688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] In a public communique, the Chilean Foreign Ministry stated that the Chilean Government will always guarantee diplomatic immunity to all accredited diplomats and consular officers.

The Chilean communique was prompted by a letter sent to the United Nations by the FRG Government, which voiced concern over a recent ruling by Chilean courts on the Colonia Dignidad case. This ruling affected two FRG diplomats.

The communique, which was read by Foreign Ministry spokesman Carlos Ducci, makes it clear that the Dignidad case is in the hands of the Supreme Court, which has yet to pass a ruling on pending proceedings.

[Begin Ducci recording] Regarding a statement released today by the FRG Government, the Chilean Foreign Ministry hereby states that:

1. The subject of the FRG statement is at present in the hands of the Supreme Court, which has yet to pass a ruling on pending proceedings.

2. It is hereby reiterated that the respect for international law, especially of those treaties that have been ratified, is a basic principle of Chilean foreign policy. Throughout history, Chile has demonstrated strict compliance with the rules governing coexistence among states. Included

among these are the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic and Consular Relations, which our country has signed and ratified.

3. Therefore, the Chilean Government publicly reiterates what it stated yesterday in a note addressed to the FRG foreign minister by the Chilean foreign minister to the effect that the Chilean Government will always guarantee diplomatic immunity to all accredited diplomats and consular officers. [end recording]

Foreign Minister on Economic Development

PY0208210588 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia stated that Chile has increased its diplomatic relations by 50 percent since 1973, adding that the government has promoted development aimed at increasing the earnings of all Chileans. Garcia made these statements at the opening of a seminar on the Chilean experience and commercial prospects in the Pacific basin, which was also attended by Economy Minister Brigadier General Manuel Concha.

Garcia said Chile has won foreign markets by improving its acumen and its products and by developing and updating its technology.

[Begin Garcia recording, in progress] ...all that, in order to let Chile reach an increasingly high standing from the viewpoint of foreign trade. The main objectives, however, are to create more jobs for all Chileans; to increase their income, so they do not suffer the restrictions imposed by underdevelopment; and to allow them to develop their potential as individuals, as members of a family, and as members of society, in the present and in the future. [end recording]

The seminar, which is being attended by the business sector, will analyze the commercial experience of the Pacific basin countries and the possibilities of promoting reciprocal economic relations.

Officials To Sign Debt Changes Contract

PY0308020288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Chilean Central Bank President Enrique Seguel will leave tonight for New York to sign on Thursday, along with Finance Minister Hernan Buchi, the changes in the foreign debt contract with creditor banks.

The finance minister, who is suffering from a bad cold, will leave on the evening of 3 August for the United States to participate on Thursday in the signing of the documents.

Junta Approves Law To Regulate Media Use

PY0308015088 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpt] The Government Junta has approved the amendments to the constitutional law on elections and the vote count. The report was released by Admiral Jose Toribio Merino at the end of the junta meeting held at Diego Portales building.

Merino said this bill will be promulgated as a law of the Republic in approximately 15 days. This law will regulate political campaigns through the press, radio, and television. Television channels will grant free of charge 30 minutes of broadcasts daily for electoral campaigns. Of these 30 minutes, 15 minutes will be for the government and its supporters, and 15 minutes for the opposition.

Adm Merino added that paid electoral campaigns will not be allowed on television. Asked about the political importance of this law, Adm Merino said, among other things, that the rules of the game have been established. [passage omitted]

Opposition Poll: 63 Percent Oppose Pinochet

PY0308024088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2110 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Santiago, 2 Aug (EFE)—According to a survey conducted by three organizations opposed to the current military government, most Chileans want a transition to democracy with order and without any disruptions or confrontations; they would also prefer a presidential candidate of consensus. The results of the survey were published today.

The survey, carried out during the second and third weeks of July, showed that 63 percent of those surveyed are opposed to General Augusto Pinochet's reelection to a new 8-year period.

In Santiago de Chile, which has at least one-third of all voters throughout the country, the survey showed that if the presidential plebiscite were held tomorrow and the candidate, who must be designated by the Armed Forces, were Pinochet, 33.9 percent would vote "no," 19.8 percent would vote "yes," and 39.9 percent were either undecided or did not answer. [figures as received]

The survey was conducted by the Center of Socioeconomic Studies for Development (CED), the Latin American Institute of Transnational Studies (ILET), and [name indistinct]. [passage omitted]

Electoral 'Scandal' Reported in Punta Arenas

PY0208135488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Report by Rene Sigli from Punta Arenas]

[Text] A great scandal has been uncovered in Punta Arenas, where signatures presented by the Social Democratic Party [PSD] to the electoral board have been

forged. This scandal affects members of the judicial branch, Armed Forces personnel, and a large number of people who have nothing to do with this party, some of whom are relatives of high-ranking government officials.

This scandal was uncovered over the weekend when various political organizations began requesting lists of militants registered in the electoral books in order to name poll watchers and to study other matters related to an electoral dispute.

Alan Corpora, manager of the Magallanes Livestock Grazers Association, and president of the National Renewal Party, was greatly surprised to learn that his mother's forged signature was on the list presented by the PSD.

A regional ministerial secretary was even more surprised to see on the list the names of some relatives, including that of his wife. The worst discovery was that the name of a female justice of the appellate court is on the list. This aggravates the crime, and for this reason, a special judge should be appointed to hear the case.

One of the affected people, Juanita de Merino, filed charges against the PSD, which in Punta Arenas is headed by Pedro Leighton.

It was learned in the afternoon that because a high-ranking member of the judicial branch has been involved, Justice Jaime Rodriguez has been designated as special judge. Investigations continue in order to discover whether the fraud committed at the electoral registration was carried out with the complicity of the notary public who attested the signatures or whether the signatures had been falsified and stamped with a forged notary's seal to certify the procedure.

So far the number of people who have registered in this book and whose signatures have been forged is not known. It is believed that the number is higher than 100.

Education Minister on University Disturbances

PY0208203188 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Education Minister Juan Antonio Guzman said that several facilties of the University of Chile have been occupied by small minority groups that often resort to violence and that these groups should not be accepted at the university.

The education minister said the decision to occupy the facilties was not reasonable because the rector and the deans have offered positive solutions to the problem of the students who cannot pay their tuition.

[Begin Guzman recording] [Passage omitted] I believe it is a minority group, and that most of the students want to study and finish the semester. [end recording] [passage omitted]

A great number of students gathered at the entrance to the Engineering School to demand respect for their right to study. The great majority of these students live in the interior of the country, and the difficulties in resuming classes creates expenses not foreseen by their families. [passage omitted]

The protesting group said they do not support the small group of students who, manipulated by political groups, use university problems to create disorder and uncertainty. They said they are tired of seeing the university being used by political groups that want to spread ideologies that are not in keeping with Chile's unique situation. They said these groups take advantage of the fact that public opinion is very sensitive to the university's problems.

Finally, the protesting students urged the students occupying the facilties to give up their position and seek solutions to their problems as students. The leaders, however, who are not students, did not agree to leave the facilties. [passage omitted]

University of Chile Rector Juan de Dios Vial Larrain released a communique denouncing the politicizing of the movement organized by the Student Federation of Chile, FECh. [passage omitted]

Police Arrest 'Terrorists' Wanted for Robbery

PY0208210088 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1700 GMT 02 Aug 88

[Text] Two terrorists of the Communist Party's armed branch were arrested early this morning in the city of Constitucion after an intense operation was conducted in the area yesterday afternoon. The two terrorists held up a pickup truck carrying cigarettes. The truck belongs to the Cerro Moreno firm of the Chilean Tobacco Company.

After the terrorists overpowered the driver, whom they took to Los Morros, near the seashore, the pickup truck experienced a breakdown that stranded the terrorists. The terrorists were spotted by residents of Constitucion, who immediately called the police.

Carabineros personnel conducted an intense operation that ended with the arrest of the two extremists, who were identified as Victor Manuel Alejandro Borbal, 21, and Jose Richard Oniva Jase, 25. Both terrorists, who live in Vina del Mar, in the fifth region, were carrying an (USI) Czechoslovakian made submachinegun. The police are waiting for security personnel from Santiago, who will take charge of the investigations.

Ecuador

President-Elect 'Sure' of Castro, Ortega Visit

PA0208185188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1708 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Quito, 2 Aug (EFE)—Today the local press reported that Rodrigo Borja, Ecuadoran Social Democratic president-elect, said that he is sure Cuban leader Fidel Castro and his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega, will visit Ecuador.

On 1 August, Castro sent a letter to Borja through Ecuadoran Deputy Juan Cueva, who was a member of an Ecuadoran legislative delegation of Socialists and Social Democrats that attended the ceremonies commemorating the Cuban anniversary of the Moncada Barracks.

After receiving the letter, Borja said he is sure Castro and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega will be in Quito on 10 August for his presidential inauguration ceremony.

Borja said the delay of the confirmation of Castro's and Ortega's visit "is perhaps because of security reasons."

Borja said: "I am sure Commander Castro will come to Ecuador. We are sure Commander Ortega will arrive on 10 August, and on that same night, we will restore diplomatic relations broken by President Leon Febres-Cordero's government." [passage omitted]

Peru

Miners Continue, Bank Workers Begin Strike

PY0208174488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1923 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Lima, 1 Aug (EFE)—Saul Cantoral, secretary general of the Miners and Metalworkers Federation, announced that approximately 70,000 miners and metalworkers have been on strike for 14 days and that today, they will begin to march on Lima from their work site. The marchers are accompanied by relatives.

This morning Augusto Garcia Duque, secretary general of the Peruvian Bank Employees Federation (FBE), confirmed that today some 30,000 Peruvian bank employees began an indefinite strike in demand of better salaries.

The FBE is a member of the General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP), which is a communist organization. The miners and metalworkers strike is causing losses of $4.5 million per day.

The miners said that they will demonstrate in Lima on 4 August, the date they are scheduled to arrive. [passage omitted]

The Labor Ministry stated that the strike is illegal and has refused to negotiate over the miners' demands, saying that the miners have to negotiate with their respective employers.

Meanwhile, the banks' headquarters are providing very few services to the public; several strikers still remain outside the buildings.

Jorge Bardelli, the Lima prefect, said that there were some incidents and that the police used tear gas to disperse the striking bank employees, who are planning to stage unauthorized marches in Lima. Bardelli added that nobody requested authorization [to strike]. [passage omitted]

Electroperu Continues To Ration Electricity

PY0208121088 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] Electroperu [Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise] has announced that because of the terrorist attacks on the power system on Independence Day, the supply of electricity to Lima and the coastal provinces from Ica to Chiclayo will be restricted.

The company said that the electric service will return to normal after the damage is repaired.

Dynamite Attacks in Tocachi Cut Power

PY0208215588 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Aug 88

[Text] We have received a report that the city of Tocache, in southern San Martin Department, has been without lights or communications since 27 July as a result of terrorist dynamite attacks on the town's utilities.

The report says that at 0620 on 27 July, terrorists blew up the city's old generator. Ten minutes later they also destroyed the new generator that was scheduled to be inaugurated on 28 July, on the occasion of the Independence Day celebrations. At 0645 a third explosion damaged the facilities and equipment of Entelperu [National Telecommunications Enterprise of Peru], isolating the city from the rest of the country.

Soldier Guarding Weapons Factory Killed

PY0208144888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2246 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] Lima, 1 Aug (EFE)—Today police reported that a Peruvian soldier, who was guarding the Army Weapons and Fuse Factory (FAMESA) in Huachipa, 20 km east of Lima, was murdered by alleged terrorists.

Reportedly, two unidentified people tried to take away Soldier Augusto Curi's weapon. Curi resisted and was shot by one of the attackers during the struggle.

Curi later died at the hospital. FAMESA officials have absolutely refused to comment on the crime.

14 Guerrillas Killed in Confrontation With Army

PY0208120588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1816 GMT 1 Aug 88

[Text] Lima, 1 Aug (EFE)—Today the political military command of the Ayacucho emergency zone reported that at least 14 guerrillas were killed in a confrontation with the Peruvian Army on 21 July in the town of Chiquintirca, southern Peru.

Other reports state that on 28 July a Shining Path column killed a former governor in Ayacucho and a peasant in the town of Astanya, Vilcashuaman Province.

In the northern jungle Department of Huanaco, according to the newspaper HOY, a group of some 300 guerrillas attacked the town of Acomayo and burned houses and the assets of public organizations.